BDAC Member Letters

99-45

23443 S. Hays Road Manteca, CA 95337 February 20, 1999

Lester Snow, Executive Director CALFED Bay-Delta Program 1416 9th St., Suite 1155 Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Lester and BDAC Members:

I call your attention to the January-February 1999 issue of California Agriculture. On Page 8 there is a quote from Henry Vaux, U.C.'s Associate Vice President of Agriculture. He states that "on a global scale one estimate suggests that as much as 1.62 billion acre feet of additional water may be needed to grow crops to feed the population increase of more than 2.3 billion people projected to occur by 2030. It is not at all obvious where such additional water will come from."

This statement serves to reinforce a concern I have repeatedly expressed regarding CALFED's program. The program as now proposed would reallocate water from growing food to other uses while the population grows and groundwater supplies are reduced by overdraft. The result would be a reduction of water allocated to growing food in California to less than half it present level on a per capita basis during the 30 year time frame of the program. I do not believe this is a responsible plan.

Sincerely,

Alex Hildebrand

cc William Lyons, Jr., Secretary of Food and Agriculture
Assemblyman Mike Machado
Senator Jim Costa
Congressman Richard Pombo
Assemblyman Dennis Cardoza
Bill Pauli, President, California Farm Bureau
SDWA Board